

1 power to control their dockets and “in the exercise of that power, they may impose sanctions
2 including, where appropriate . . . dismissal of a case.” Thompson v. Housing Auth., 782 F.2d
3 829, 831 (9th Cir. 1986). A court may dismiss an action, with prejudice, based on a party’s
4 failure to prosecute an action, failure to obey a court order, or failure to comply with local rules.
5 See, e.g. Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52, 53-54 (9th Cir. 1995)(dismissal for noncompliance with
6 local rule); Ferdik v. Bonzelet, 963 F.2d 1258, 1260-61 (9th Cir. 1992) (dismissal for failure to
7 comply with an order requiring amendment of complaint); Carey v. King, 856 F.2d 1439, 1440-
8 41 (9th Cir. 1988)(dismissal for failure to comply with local rule requiring pro se plaintiffs to
9 keep court apprised of address); Malone v. U.S. Postal Service, 833 F.2d 128, 130 (9th Cir.
10 1987)(dismissal for failure to comply with court order); Henderson v. Duncan, 779 F.2d 1421,
11 1424 (9th Cir. 1986)(dismissal for failure to lack of prosecution and failure to comply with local
12 rules).

13 In determining whether to dismiss an action for lack of prosecution, failure to obey a
14 court order, or failure to comply with local rules, the court must consider several factors: (1) the
15 public’s interest in expeditious resolution of litigation; (2) the court’s need to manage its docket;
16 (3) the risk of prejudice to the defendants; (4) the public policy favoring disposition of cases on
17 their merits; and (5) the availability of less drastic alternatives. Thompson, 782 F.2d at 831;
18 Henderson, 779 F.2d at 1423-24; Malone, 833 F.2d at 130; Ferdik, 963 F.2d at 1260-61; Ghazali,
19 46 F.3d at 53.

20 In the instant case, the Court finds that the public’s interest in expeditiously resolving this
21 litigation and the court’s interest in managing the docket weigh in favor of dismissal, as this case
22 has been pending since February 2005. The third factor, risk of prejudice to defendants, also
23 weighs in favor of dismissal, since a presumption of injury arises from the occurrence of
24 unreasonable delay in prosecuting an action. Anderson v. Air West, 542 F.2d 522, 524 (9th Cir.
25 1976). The fourth factor -- public policy favoring disposition of cases on their merits -- is greatly
26 outweighed by the factors in favor of dismissal discussed herein. Finally, a court’s warning to a
27 party that his failure to obey the court’s order will result in dismissal satisfies the “consideration
28 of alternatives” requirement. Ferdik v. Bonzelet, 963 F.2d at 1262; Malone, 833 at 132-33;

1 Henderson, 779 F.2d at 1424. The court's order directing Plaintiff to return service documents
2 expressly stated: "The failure to comply with this Order will result in a Recommendation that this
3 action be dismissed." Thus, Plaintiff had adequate warning that dismissal would result from
4 noncompliance with the Court's order.

5 RECOMMENDATION

6 Accordingly, the Court HEREBY RECOMMENDS that this action be dismissed based
7 on Plaintiff's failure to obey the Court's April 1, 2005, order and for failure to prosecute this
8 action.

9 These Findings and Recommendations are submitted to the Honorable Robert E. Coyle
10 pursuant to the provisions of Title 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1). Within thirty (30) days after being
11 served with these findings and recommendations, Plaintiff may file written objections with the
12 Court. Such a document should be captioned "Objections to Magistrate Judge's Findings and
13 Recommendation." Plaintiff is advised that failure to file objections within the specified time
14 may waive the right to appeal the District Court's order. Martinez v. Ylst, 951 F.2d 1153 (9th
15 Cir. 1991).

16 IT IS SO ORDERED.

17 **Dated: May 9, 2005**
18 3b142a

/s/ Dennis L. Beck
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE